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NEWS

Home converted for marijuana cultivation...p. 2



SPORTS

Live-streaming could be available for games...p. 9



AMHERST

Meg Gennings re-appointed...p. 11



GRANBY

Granby library updates...p. 12

PUBLIC HEALTH

COVID-19 status unchanged

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

B E L C H E R T O W N — Belchertown's COVID-19 status has remained the same as last week, in the red, according to the Massachusetts Dept. of Health and Quabbin Health District.

There were 59 news cases of COVID-19 and one death from Sunday, Jan. 10 to Saturday, Jan. 16. The total cases to date in Belchertown are 511 and total deaths are 16.

There were 1,113 tests in the weekly period, bringing the total to 20,612 tests as of Jan. 12, 2021.

State metrics leave Belchertown in the "red" category for another week, based on the previous two-week period of Dec. 27, 2020 to Jan. 9, 2021. These metrics were published on Jan. 14.

The town's current positivity rate is at 6.55%, which was slightly lower than last week's rate of 6.98%. The current rate per 100,000 is 48.9, which is higher than last week's rate of 46.7.

According to the state, case positivity rate and incident rates are calculate using the 14-day rolling average method.

The color metric system categorized Belchertown in the red based off 23 or more cases of COVID-19 and a positivity rate of 5% or higher.



PHOTO BY MELINA BOURDEAU

Interim Granby Fire Chief Robert Czerwinski received the COVID-19 vaccine last week.

COVID-19 vaccine administered at Bangs Center

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

A M H E R S T — First responders "did their part" last week, getting the Moderna vaccine for COVID-19.

The town of Amherst hosted a clinic site for first responders of Hampshire County to obtain the vaccine.

The clinic was conducted at the Bangs Community Center, at 70 Boltwood Walk

in Downtown Amherst. This site was host to first responders from Amherst, Belchertown, Granby, Hadley, Hatfield, Pelham, South Hadley and Ware, according to the town's website.

First responders needed to pre-register online and provide insurance information to be vaccinated. The indoor facility provided vaccines to up to 15 people at a time. Following administration of the Moderna

vaccine, staff monitored the recipients for 15 minutes.

They were also given administration for the second dose of the vaccine, which would be administered 28 days later.

Among those getting vaccinated were interim Granby Fire Chief Robert Czerwinski and Belchertown Fire Capt. Scott Chapman who received their

See **VACCINE**, page 8 •

BELCHERTOWN

BOH approves harm reduction program

LILY JUDA
Correspondent

B E L C H E R T O W N — The Belchertown Board of Health passed a motion to allow Tapestry Health to offer their mobile harm reduction services in town.

The board met with Director of Harm Reduction Programming Liz Whynott of Tapestry Health to discuss the possibility of a harm reduction program extending its services to Belchertown on Monday, Jan. 11.

Tapestry's mission is "to provide access to care without stigma and meet the most marginalized populations that have historically had trouble accessing care," Whynott said.

"We work primarily with people who aren't ready to stop using drugs and our primary focus is to keep people as healthy as possible in whatever way that means to them," said Whynott. "We want to focus on keeping people alive and preventing things like the spread of infectious diseases like HIV

See **TAPESTRY**, page 3 •

QUABBIN

Local groups make effort to rename Quabbin Visitors Center

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

B E L C H E R T O W N — Three local groups are spearheading an effort to memorialize two members of the community who were instrumental in the establishment of the Quabbin Visitor's Center — Leslie and Terry Campbell.

Members of the Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists, Friends of Quabbin and Quabbin Photo Group have formed the Les and Terry Campbell Memorial Committee. The group published its first article in the Friends of the Quabbin winter newsletter explaining how and why the group intends to rename the visi-

tors center.

The group hopes to put up new signage inside and outside the building displaying the new moniker "The Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitors Center."

Following Terry Campbell's death in 2004 and Les Campbell's in Sept. 2020, the committee feels that timing is right to rename the visitors center.

Friends of the Quabbin Editor and members of the memorial committee, Paul Godfrey said the groups formed the memorial committee shortly after Les Campbell's death.

"For most of us, renaming the visitors center in (the Campbell's) honor was a no brainer," said

Godfrey. "However, that doesn't mean it's automatic. We have to build an effort and we need support."

He said the group strives to continue teaching people about the Quabbin, the previous towns that were there and nature.

"The Quabbin is a natural area that is mostly left to itself," Godfrey said. "Our efforts have been to educate people that it's not just water or this beautiful environment. It's about historic preservation. People were forced to move from their homes."

Godfrey said the aim of the committee is to change the signs

See **QUABBIN**, page 5 •



PHOTO BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Three local groups are working to rename the Quabbin Visitors Center in honor of Les and Terry Campbell, who were Belchertown residents.



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Home converted for marijuana cultivation



Belchertown Police arrested 57-year-old Can Hui Wu on charges including cultivation of marijuana, conspiracy to violate drug laws and possession with intent to distribute class D drugs.



Belchertown Police arrested 60-year-old Huoqiu Wu on charges of cultivation of marijuana, conspiracy to violate drug laws and possession with intent to distribute class D drugs.

Arrests made

BELCHERTOWN – Two men were arrested following the discovery of a large-scale marijuana growing operation in a Belchertown residence.

There were two people present at the house. Arrested by the Belchertown Police Department for cultivation of marijuana; conspiracy to violate drug laws; and possession with intent to distribute a class D substance; were 57-year-old Can Hui Wu; and 60-year-old Huoqiu Wu, both of Brooklyn, N.Y.

The individuals were booked at the Belchertown Police Department and held at the Hampshire County House of Correction on \$25,000 bail each.

Seized pursuant to the search warrant was \$2,500 cash, over 800 marijuana plants, and growing apparatus.

At 7:52 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, the Belchertown Emergency Dispatch Center received a report of a possible house fire at 24 West

Street in Belchertown. It was reported that smoke was emitting from the eaves of the roof.

The Belchertown Fire Department responded and made entry into the home to investigate. Upon entry, they observed a large-scale marijuana growing operation. It was determined there was no active fire at the house, rather, what was believed to be smoke was caused by an elaborate exhaust system.

Police obtained a search warrant for the house and found that it was uninhabited and free from any furniture or belongings. The entire house had been converted into a marijuana growing operation on all levels of the home. The set-up included hydroponic watering systems and elaborate lighting and exhaust systems.

The presence of the large amount of lighting and other mechanical devices in the uninhabited residential home posed a high risk for fire danger. The home was also filled with mold throughout.

Baker-Polito administration awards additional grants

BOSTON - The Baker-Polito Administration announced \$78.5 million in awards to 1,595 additional small businesses in the third round of grants through the COVID-19 Small Business Grant Program administered by the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation.

To date, the Baker-Polito Administration has awarded close to \$195 million in direct financial support to 4,119 small businesses out of a \$668 million fund set up to support small businesses across the Commonwealth.

Locally five Belchertown businesses were awarded grants: Footloose School of Dance received \$20,000, McCarthy's Pub received \$75,000, Granger Medical Inc. received \$75,000, Creative Dance received \$40,000 and TDS Speech Pathology Associates received \$75,000.

Additional grants will be announced in the coming weeks for thousands of additional businesses.

"Our administration set up a \$668 million grant program to support small businesses statewide that are struggling from COVID-19 impacts," said Governor Charlie Baker. "Today, we are awarding our third round of grants, for a total of \$195 million in direct financial support for over 4,000 small businesses, with more yet to come. Supporting small businesses is vital to our economic recovery, and we'll continue to expedite this grant process to send out funds to provide some much needed financial relief."

"Understanding how significant

the need for financial assistance is, we've taken important steps to ensure these resources are directed toward the businesses that have historically been at a disadvantage even before the pandemic, or are located in communities, especially Gateway Cities, that have suffered disproportionately because of this virus," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "I'm grateful for the partnership with MGCC to provide this important assistance, and I look forward to the coming weeks when we can award even more support for the economic sectors that are most in need."

"Through each of the three grant rounds, small businesses are receiving essential support at a critical time in our fight against COVID-19," said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy. "I want to acknowledge the team at Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation for their efforts to stand up this impactful program. It is important that we as a Commonwealth continue our dual paths of combating the virus and supporting economic recovery."

Representing key industries that have been especially impacted during the pandemic, restaurants and bars, personal care, retail, and health care businesses received the highest number of individual grants this round. These industries have been particularly hard hit during the pandemic. Other grant recipients include women owned businesses, businesses in Gateway Cities, businesses in underserved markets and businesses that have previously received no other forms of financial assistance.

Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity building two affordable homes in Pelham

mation sessions to learn more:

- Saturday Jan. 23 at 10 a.m.
- Thursday Feb. 4 at 5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday Feb. 24 at 3:30 p.m.

During the information session, potential applicants will learn about Habitat's selection criteria and how to prepare a complete application. The selection criteria include housing need, ability to make mortgage payments of \$700 to \$1,200/month, and willingness to partner with Habitat, such as participating in the construction of the home and other Habitat projects. More at <https://www.pvhabitat.org/apply/>.

All homes will be built to Energy Star standards and are designed to be visitable by someone in a wheelchair. All Habitat built homes are restricted to income eligible buyers in perpetuity.

Since 1989, Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity has built decent, affordable homes with 42 low income families in Hampshire and Franklin Counties. We build our homes with volunteer labor and donations of material, supplies, land, and services. At the onset of homebuilding, a family is selected and enters into a long term partner-

ship with Pioneer Valley Habitat. Future homeowners contribute 250 hours of labor during the construction of their home alongside volunteers from the community. Upon completion, the home is sold to the family with an affordable mortgage. Habitat is a hand-up, not a hand-out: the organization has a perpetual legacy in that all mortgage funds received are reinvested to build more homes. We are a housing organization helping to bring stability to families, bringing more stability into our neighborhoods and communities.

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Granby schools stay remote for time being

BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

GRANBY — As Granby saw three weeks of high COVID-19 cases, deeming the town in the “red” according to the state’s stop light like color coding system.

For the time being, Granby students will be learning remotely. But Granby School Committee members approved a tentative metric to determine the next steps for phasing in students, beginning with the special needs population.

Interim Superintendent Carol Hepworth explained the information used to create metrics the district used to go remote and the board decided how the data would be used to determine when the students would return.

Granby Board of Health Clerk Jeanne Crosby said, as of Jan. 13, there were 38 positive cases for the most recent two-week period with a 6.81% positivity rate. The previous two-week period was also in the “red” with 35 positive cases of COVID-19 and a 6.7% positivity rate.

“It’s hard to say if the cases are going to down, we’ll have more information on Monday,” Crosby said. “There were 17 new cases over the weekend.”

The tool “looks at Granby’s state Department of Public Health number, color coding, percent positivity along with trending data from the Granby Board of Health’s rolling 14-days positive case count,” according to a Jan. 7 letter to district families from Hepworth.

Hepworth said if the cases were over 26, in the red for three weeks and had a high positivity rate, the schools will continue to be remote. Each Thursday, the state reported data will be monitored by the district as well as data provided by the Granby Board of Health.

TAPESTRY • from page 1

and Hepatitis C (through syringe access) and we want to prevent overdoses through the distribution of Narcan.”

Depending on the needs of the town, the program could include posting a van in the center of town which will provide services with part-time hours. Residents may also access Tapestry’s resources via delivery, where services are provided to residents who may not have the transportation to reach this mobile posting site. The site of this mobile van will be up for discussion in later meetings so that services may have best access.

She said one of the programs includes giving out unused syringes to people and taking used syringes in.

“The evidence surrounding the benefits includes...the decrease of HIV that especially around the mid-90s, some studies show the introduction of syringe use cases of HIV decreased by 90%,” Whynott said. “Studies have shown people that access syringe access are five times more likely to access treatment. One important thing is because we’re working with people who aren’t ready to treatment, that means we’re often peoples’ first access to any form of care or treatment, so if someone hasn’t gotten to the point of detox...we as health workers are the first introduction to talking about the services that are provided.”

According to Tapestry Health, there have been hundreds of Belchertown residents who have had to travel out of town to seek their services over the last year alone. Therefore, Belchertown and its residents should benefit from the services being offered through Tapestry Health, Whynott said.

Quabbin Health Director, Judy Metcalf, said there was a need in the community for the service. “It’s an amazing first step and a lot of times it’s the first step on the road to recovery,” Metcalf said.

However, phasing back into hybrid learning posed a more difficult challenge to the committee who discussed the matter for over an hour in the meeting on Jan. 5.

The committee unanimously agreed to begin phasing in students, beginning with high needs students throughout the district.

During the committee’s discussion, members expressed their unease with the constantly changing data.

School Committee Chair Emre Evren said the committee is in a difficult position.

“We’re trying to balance two things one is what we are normally here to do – which is prioritize the educational needs of the students, teachers and staff in the district,” he said. “But we are in a very unusual period. One word we always use and say it is our ‘priority,’ (and that is also) the health and safety of everyone.”

School Committee member Jennifer Bartosz asked Hepworth about the plan to phase in other grades into the hybrid learning model.

“We have to, based on this, no one is coming back for two consecutive weeks and then with the potential of a third week, but we have phase in plans that are in two week (increments),” said Bartosz. “We don’t have enough weeks in the year to get everyone back.”

Hepworth agreed adding, “I advocated for one week when we turn yellow and we had the potential, so we weren’t going so many weeks, but...people were saying if we’re doing two (weeks) one way, we should two weeks on another.”

While the school committee voted to use the metrics Hepworth presented, conversations with the Granby Education Association need to occur and the committee will need to look at phasing in the remaining grades following the special needs population.

All services can be accessed anonymously to those 18 years and older, for free, and without proof of insurance. This is to encourage more people in need to access these resources without having to worry about the stigma associated with substance use, as stigma serves as a large barrier to care when it comes to substance usage, according to Whynott.

When talking about the steps moving forward, Whynott said Tapestry would bring a van into the town to provide services to people with hopes of beginning to understand the needs of the community.

“One of the things we’d be interested in doing more of is a community needs assessment particularly with people who are using drugs and learning more about where to go and how best to offer the service,” Whynott said.

Members spoke in favor of the service. Board of Health Chair Leeanne Connolly said she fully supported the program.

“There’s a problem here and putting your head in the sand like we’re trying to do with other problems has not been effective,” Connolly said. “We’ve had a lot of opioid deaths in Belchertown, it breaks my heart.”

Hope Guardenier said she couldn’t see a reason not to support it.

“I’ve heard of needle exchange programs not passing and it sounds like it sounds like the only reason for that was the politics around it and the stigma. All the stats on this are positive,” said Guardenier. “There is nothing negative that is going to come out of a mobile van parked somewhere in Belchertown allowing access.”

Tapestry has been operating since the early 1970s, originally as a family planning clinic, and has expanded its services over the last 50 years. Tapestry now offers a wide variety of services across Western Mass. including reproductive and sexual health clinics, harm reduction sites and others.

Former Granby Fire Chief wins arbitration

KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
Correspondent

GRANBY — An arbitrator has found that the town of Granby did not have just cause to impose a 90-day suspension on Fire Chief John Mitchell for insubordination last year.

The town was ordered to expunge the insubordination charge from Mitchell’s records; he will also be entitled to back pay and benefits, according to the decision by Arbitrator Marsha Saylor. The 90-day suspension came after the town’s allegation that Mitchell insubordinately refused to answer questions from members of the Granby Selectboard on July 6, 2020.

In the spring and early summer of 2020, the town initiated three disciplinary actions against Mitchell: a 30-day suspension, a termination, and a 90-day suspension. The 30-day suspension was issued in May for speeding in the Fire Chief’s assigned vehicle. He served that suspension in June, and an arbitrator previously found that the town did not have just cause to suspend Mitchell for these 30 days.

On May 5, the town issued a disciplinary email in response to the speeding allegation. Arbitrator Mary Ellen Shea issued her award in November, finding that the Chief was disciplined twice (double jeopardy) for the same exact misconduct (speeding). She found that Mitchell was guilty of the misconduct, but did not find just cause to impose the 30-day suspension. The town was ordered to rescind that suspension and to make him whole for lost wages.

According to the most recent decision, the town argued that it had just cause for the 90-day sus-

pension for insubordination, arguing that Mitchell was insubordinate at the July 6 meeting as he was told to answer questions.

Mitchell argued that he was not given a direct order to answer questions at the July 6 meeting.

Saylor wrote in the decision that to establish a charge of insubordination, the town must prove that Mitchell was given a direct order and refused it “having been warned he was subject to discipline for disobeying the order.”

“I have reviewed the video of the July 6 meeting several times,” Saylor wrote. “The Chief was not ordered to answer questions. Nor was he directed to answer questions. He was told that members had questions but having questions and being ordered to respond to those questions are very different. Nor was the Chief told unequivocally that he would be disciplined if he did not answer the questions during the July 6 meeting.”

The arbitration decision adds that the town did not meet its burden of proof to establish that Mitchell was insubordinate.

“There is a big difference between asking someone a question and demanding that they respond,” the decision reads.

Mitchell was hired by the town in the spring of 2017; in June, the town informed Mitchell that it would not be renewing his contract as of July 1, 2021.

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Belchertown Community Television schedule

BELCHERTOWN – This is the upcoming schedule for Thursday, Jan. 21 to Wednesday, Jan. 27. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this schedule is subject to change.

Thursday, Jan. 21

- 8 a.m. – Selectboard – Jan. 19
- 10 a.m. – School Committee – Jan. 19
- 12 p.m. – BEDIC – Jan. 20
- 6:30 p.m. – COVID Task Force – Channel 191
- 8 p.m. – Selectboard – Jan. 19
- 10 p.m. – School Committee – Jan. 19

Friday, Jan. 22

- 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. – Community Preservation Comm. – Jan. 19
- 7 p.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 8 p.m. – BEDIC – Jan. 20
- 10 p.m. – Community Preservation Comm. – Jan. 19

Saturday, Jan. 23

- 8 a.m. – Curious Giraffe
- 4:30 p.m. – Curious Giraffe
- 7 p.m. – COVID Task Force – Jan. 21

Sunday, Jan. 24

- 4:30 p.m. – St. Francis Roman Catholic Church
- 6 p.m. – Christ Community Church
- 7 p.m. – Hope United Methodist Church
- 8:30 p.m. – COVID Task Force – Jan. 21

Monday, Jan. 25

- 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 5 p.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 6:30 p.m. – Selectboard – Channel 191
- 7 p.m. – Conservation Comm. – Channel 192

Tuesday, Jan. 26

- 8 a.m. – Curious Giraffe
- 4:30 p.m. – Curious Giraffe
- 7 p.m. – Planning Board – Channel 191

Wednesday, Jan. 27

- 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 1 p.m. – Mediation with Lori - Grounding
- 7 p.m. – Conversation with Pakman

The BCTV Studio is located at 68 State St., Belchertown. BCTV channels are 191, 192 and 193. The BCTV schedule is available at www.Belchertown.org. On the main title page select "residents," click on Belchertown Community Television. Selected BCTV shows are also available on Vimeo. Go to www.Belchertown.org, go to quick links and click on "watch meetings and events online." The schedule is subject to change.

The BCTV weather information system is broadcast on TV channel 193 and displays the current weather conditions at the BCTV station as well as, the current regional radar. This service operates 24 hours a day with audio provided by the National Weather Service from Albany New York, with forecasts, storm and emergency warnings for the Pioneer Valley.

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Applications open to high school seniors and college students studying journalism

REGION – The New England Newspaper and Press Association awards up to 10 scholarships each year to aspiring journalists through the Journalism Education Foundation of New England. Applications are open through the deadline of March 12, 2021. Our foundation strives to encourage and support young people who plan to pursue a career in the newspaper industry.

College students or high school seniors who are studying and acquiring work experience that will prepare them to work in the field of journalism are eligible to apply.

For more information contact Linda Conway at l.conway@nenpa.com.

To qualify students must:

Be a resident of New England.

Centenarian's family seeks cards

BELCHERTOWN – To help celebrate Belchertown's oldest resident's birthday, the family of Charlie Howard hopes the community will send him cards. Howard's 103rd birthday is on Jan. 23. For those looking to wish him a happy birthday, send a birthday greeting to: C. F. Howard 82 Jackson St. Belchertown MA 01007. He'd love to hear from you.

Be a senior in high school planning to attend college the following year or an undergraduate college student studying journalism or a related field.

Have a GPA of 3.0 or above.

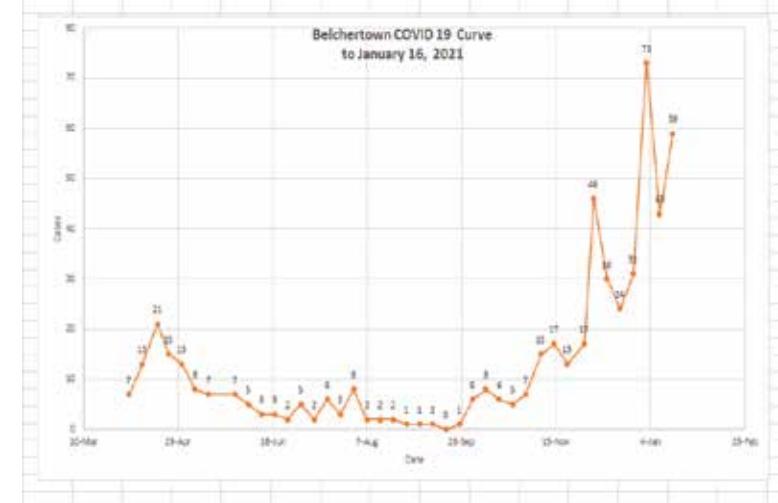
Demonstrate a serious interest in a career in journalism by sending: a cover letter, transcript, resume or biography, letter of recommendation, and a

body of published work in a school news publication, general circulation newspaper, or a similar publication and/or a body of work prepared for a journalism class.

Please note: You will be required to sign in to Google to upload documents.

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Belchertown COVID-19 tracker



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ADVANCING YOUR HEALTH

QUABBIN • from page 1

on two of the doors as well as add a tribute to the couple inside of the visitors center.

"Additionally, we would like to include a plaque that briefly summarizes who Les and Terry were to visitors of the Quabbin Visitors Center, which will permanently teach all visitors how this wonderful resource was imagined and created. All costs of these new signs will be borne by the aforementioned groups which Les founded: Friends of Quabbin, Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists, and Quabbin Photo Group," wrote Annie Tiberio in the newsletter.

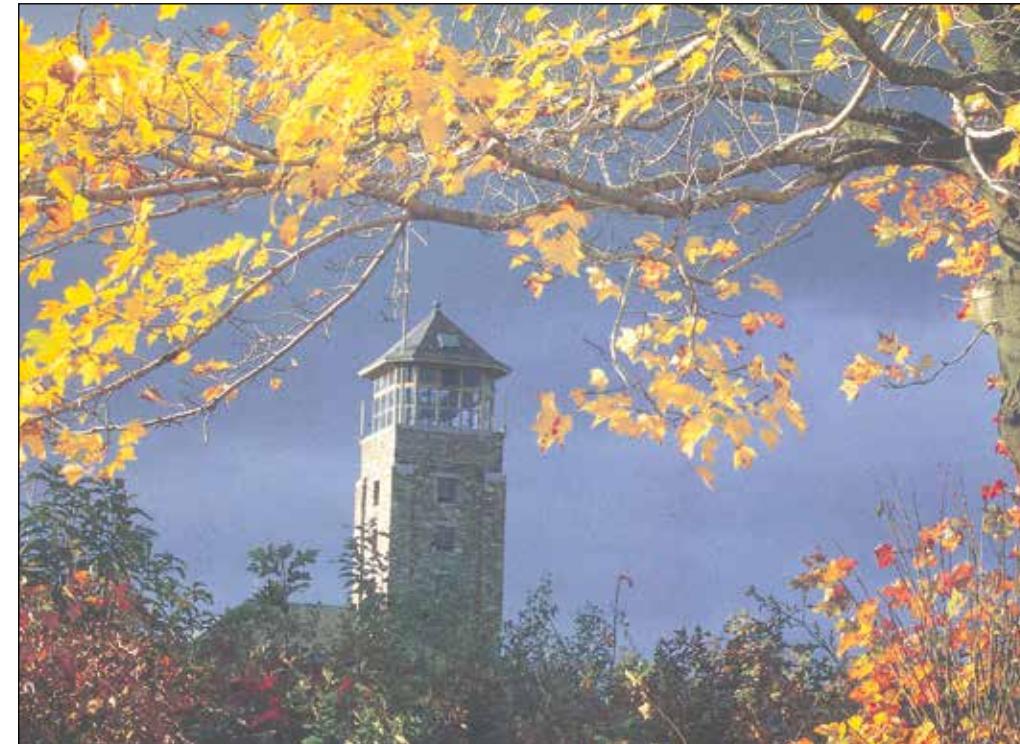
In his tribute to Les Campbell, Godfrey wrote that Les Campbell was born in Ware in Aug. 1925.

Les Campbell not only worked for the Metropolitical District Water Supply Commission in the Quabbin Section, but he also spent 75 years as a photographer, earning accolades for his work including three of the highest awards given by the Photographic society of America, according to the tribute.

"But his passion, for the last forty years and what he may be best remembered for, is his love of teaching other people his skills. In 1946, Les co-founded the Quabbin Bird Club," wrote Godfrey in the tribute. "Later, he started many local camera clubs, including the Quabbin Photo Group and Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists. More recently, he became concerned that his fellow photographers could not show their work because of the expense of having it framed. So, he taught them to frame and matte their own photographs in his living room."

Terry Campbell, born in 1940 in Hartford CT, lived in Belchertown since 1969 and co-founded the visitors center where she worked for 15 years, according to her obituary from Beers & Story.

"The physical operation of the Visitors Center fell to volunteers... Terry who began with an empty room," wrote Tiberio in the newsletter. "It was Terry who foresaw the need for a discussion group of, originally, former residents (of the lost towns of the Quabbin) called the Tuesday Tea



Three local groups are working to rename the Quabbin Visitors Center in honor of Belchertown photographer, Les Campbell and his wife, Terry Campbell.

group. It was Terry who started selling books on the Quabbin... It was Les and Terry who created a newsletter for members of the Friends of Quabbin. It was Terry who started providing information to visitors and made it obvious that permanent staff were needed for that task. And she became the first Visitors Center staff member hired by MDC."

Thus far the groups have sent information about the project to: State Rep Donald Berthiaume, Jr. (R-Spencer), State Senator Joanne Comerford (D-Northampton), State Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer), State Senator Eric Lesser (D-Longmeadow), State Rep Todd Smola (R-Warren), State Rep Susannah Whipple-Lee (I-Athol), Congressman Jim McGovern (D-Worcester), Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Ed Markey, DCR Commissioner Jim Montgomery, Frederick P. Laskey of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, Director Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee Lexi Dewey and former State Senator Stephen Brewer.

Send comments to Paul Godfrey, 47 Harkness Road,



PHOTO BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Les Campbell in his studio in July 2020 looking through his photographs, before he died in Sept. 2020.

Pelham, MA 01002 or godfrey@umass.edu. Godfrey will share them with the rest of the committee and with others that they ask for help.

COURTESY PHOTO
Terry and Les Campbell helped to create the Quabbin Visitors Center at the Quabbin Reservoir as well as its supporting organization, the Friends of the Quabbin.



Lois Doubleday, previous Friends of the Quabbin newsletter editor, and Terry Campbell cut a holiday party cake. Campbell was the first staff member of the Quabbin Visitor's Center.



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OPINION

HISTORY MATTERS

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column is a biweekly feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize and was created to highlight books that show children that their past is prelude to their future.

Historic events from Jan. 16 to Jan. 31

JOHN GRIMALDI AND DAVID BRUCE SMITH
Guest columnist

Benjamin Franklin, the paternal polymath of Revolutionary America, was born Jan. 17, 1706, and died 84 years later. His formal education ended at 10, but Franklin taught himself to read and write; subsequently, he matured into an expert, adolescent essayist, producing pieces, pseudonymously, as "Silence Dogood."

Eventually, he authored the bestselling Poor Richard's Almanack—a compendium of poems, calendar, and recipes; trivia, humor, practical advice; weather predictions, astrological information and pithy proverbs.

And his later achievements as a printer, publisher, author, inventor, scientist, and diplomat, mutated the world.

Franklin's triumphs were variegated, and the scope of his nimble masterminding of the Franklin Stove, bifocals, electricity and swim fins was unprecedented. He was also America's first Postmaster General, and founder of the University of Pennsylvania.

Most important: Franklin was a Founding Father. According to History.com, he was the only Founding Father "to have signed all four of the key documents establishing the U.S.: The Declaration of Independence (1776), the Treaty of Alliance with France (1778), the Treaty of Paris establishing peace with Great Britain (1783) and the U.S. Constitution (1787)."

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends "The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin."

Elizabeth Blackwell

Apparently, it was a "practical joke" when the all-male student body at Geneva Medical College, now State University of New York, voted to accept Elizabeth Blackwell as a student in 1847. Two years later, on Jan. 23, 1849, she graduated at the top of her class; at commencement, the school's dean acknowledged her achievement in a rather cynical manner and concluded his remarks by declaring his hope that Dr. Blackwell would be the last woman to be admitted to the college.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, now The New England Journal of Medicine, called her achievement "a farce."

Blackwell completed her graduate studies in London; in 1851, she returned to the U.S., but she was shunned, and barred, from practicing in hospitals. Undaunted, she opened an office in New York City's tenement district; six years later, she set up The New York Infirmary for Women and Children, with her sister Emily, also a doctor, and a third female physician.

For more information, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Elizabeth Blackwell: First Woman M.D." by Nancy Kline.

Nellie Bly

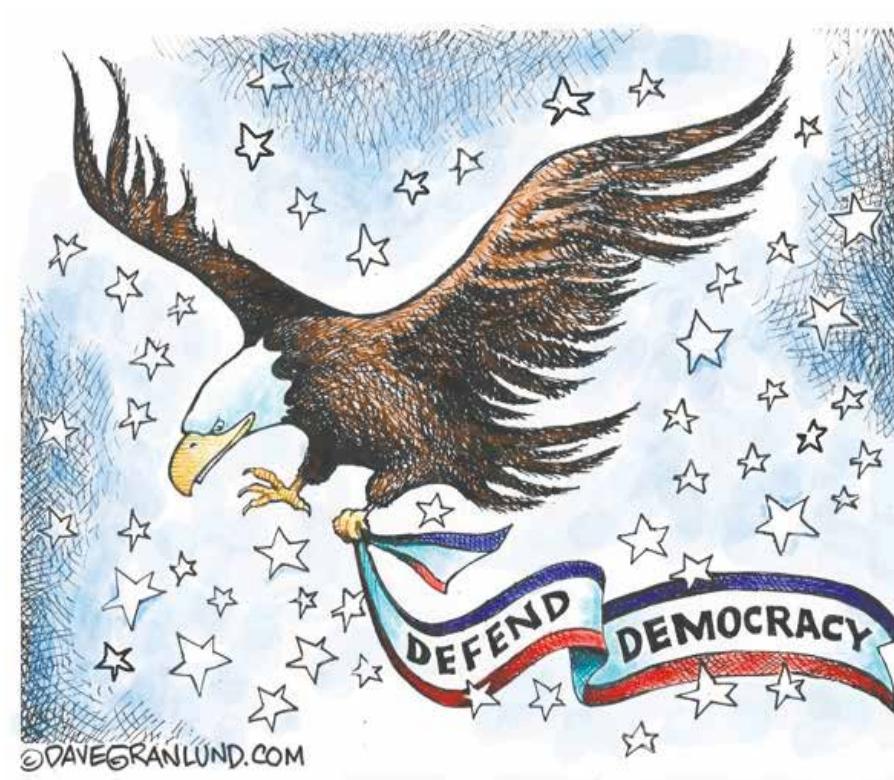
Jules Verne's "Around the World in Eighty Days," was published in 1872, but it is still popular. His hero, Phileas T. Fogg, managed to accomplish the feat.

Because the book was a best seller in America and abroad, the editors of the New York World decided to challenge their paper's star reporter, Nellie Bly, to circumnavigate the globe in under 80 days. The intrepid newspaperwoman did not hesitate. She departed New York City, heading east, and returned 72 days, six hours, 11 minutes, and 14 seconds later, on Jan. 25, 1890.

Nellie Bly was not her real name; she was born Elizabeth Cochrane, but in those days, it was considered improper for a woman to write under her own moniker. She changed it to "Nellie Bly" when she became a journalist.

According to the Library of Congress, "No stranger to fame, the daring Miss Bly had already made a name for herself by exposing the deplorable conditions of an insane asylum on New York's Blackwell's Island. Bly researched the story by feigning insanity and having herself committed for 10 days. Her exposé on the asylum and later reports on slum life brought about needed reforms and helped pave the way for women in journalism."

For more information, The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Bly's memoir: "Undercover: Reporting for The New York World 1887 – 1894."



GUEST COLUMN

Midwinter garden musings

It was a lot of fun to get back in the groove garden-wise this week. No, my hands weren't in the dirt, but I was definitely dreaming and scheming about the upcoming season, and reflecting on gardens past. Here are some musings that might be of interest to you.

One can presume that the resurgence in gardening we experienced last spring has continued into the new year. Because of unprecedented increases in ordering, two of my favorite mail order seed companies have limited days that you can place online orders and are stating that it will take anywhere from 10 days to six weeks for shipment. So I guess I would advise that if you haven't placed your orders yet, it might be a good idea to do so.

On a sad note, I discovered that one of my favorite companies for flower seed, Stokes Seed, has discontinued flower seed altogether and is catering to commercial growers for its vegetable seed. Good thing I saved an outdated catalog for all of its valuable cultural information. It was here that I learned that cleome seeds like alternating temperatures to germinate well, to the tune of 85 degrees by day and 65 degrees by night! Or that salvia seed needs light to germinate; don't cover these seeds, just push them into the soil surface.

One thing that always appealed to me about this company was the number of varieties that it offered for each flower type. In my old catalog, I counted no less than 22 kinds of petunias in dozens of colors choices. It will take a bit of research to find a replacement for this company but I am guessing there is one or more out there.

The hyacinth bulbs that sat in my 50-degree mudroom since October sometime were put in forcing glasses a little over a week ago, and already have roots that stretch inches into the water. It has been an ongoing joke in my house that if you stood there long enough you could watch them grow. Top growth has started, ever so slightly. I cannot wait for the blooms to perfume my house! Did you ever get "itchy" after handling hyacinth bulbs? I do, and it is a common reaction for many people. The weird thing is, my hands rarely itch, but if I happen to touch my face or my neck with a hand that touched a hyacinth bulb I had better wash up and quickly!

The rosemary plant that I potted up before the first hard frost is doing great. It gets late morning sun and sits in a comfortable 50-degree location indoors. Old houses are great in that respect; they offer lots



of little microclimates for our gardening pass-time. I water it as needed, typically every five days or so. It hasn't flowered, but should soon. Long nights initiate the flowering response. This year it grew so big that I could barely lift it on my own. It may be a good idea to think about taking some cuttings this spring and retiring the old girl. We'll see.

The best cuttings are those taken with a little new growth. Find where the tip of the stem bends on its own and that is where you should take your cutting. Keeping a large rosemary on board is reminiscent of my teenage years when my parents would cover and uncover the two large specimens we'd overwinter on our unheated porch. We were successful at it for many years in a row.

As I look back I think it is pretty neat that my parents cared enough about my blossoming career to go through the hassle of putting blankets on rosemary plants every night!

On that note, I hope that you too are able to find your groove this week, gardening or elsewhere.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Plush Pals cat (left) and dog were delivered to two children at Square One in Springfield in December 2020.

Dakin Humane Society Donors have options for donations

SPRINGFIELD— Dakin Humane Society, at 171 Union Street in Springfield, is offering Plush Pals, stuffed dogs and cats, as a way of leveraging the strength of its animal loving community to help children during these difficult times when contact and hugs have been minimized due to COVID-19.

Individuals can request their own Plush Pal or select a “Get One, Give One” option while donating online, which includes a Plush Pal for themselves and another to be sent to a child at Square One. The Springfield-based non-profit organization provides support services and family-friendly education for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school-age children throughout the region.

The Plush Pals stand eight inches high and are mailed out with a Hug Certificate as well as a photo of a special animal who was cared for at Dakin Humane Society. They can be requested when donating online at <http://bit.ly/PlushPals>.

“We began offering Plush Pals during the holiday season, and they are still available,” said Dakin’s Director of Development and Marketing Stacey Price. “Many people, including children, are hurting right now. They can’t be with their friends, some do not have animals at home, and we want them to be able to connect with a loved one, in this case, a Plush Pal, and let them know that someone is thinking about them. This effort gives individuals the option to provide a Plush Pal to the children at Square One. Some of us have our pets to keep us company throughout the pandemic, but we wanted to do something for those who want that kind of companionship. Plush Pals give them something to cuddle and love.”

Square One was chosen as the recipient of this effort because of its longstanding commitment to helping children in the Pioneer Valley, according to Price. “Their dedication to families, especially in the face of this pandemic, is remarkable, and given Dakin’s mission to help animals and the people who love them, we thought this would be an opportunity to bring joy to children by giving them a special pet of their own.”

Dakin Humane Society delivers effective, innovative services that improve the lives of animals in need and the people who care about them. The organization shelters, treats and fosters more than 20,000 animals each year and has performed more than 98,000 spay/neuter surgeries since 2009, making it New England’s largest spay/neuter provider. Dakin is a local non-profit organization that relies solely on contributions from individuals and businesses that care about animals to bring its services to the community.

For more information, visit www.dakinhumane.org.



Jennifer Baublitz named executive director of Brookfield Institute

WARE — Jennifer Baublitz has been named executive director of the Brookfield Institute, a nonprofit that builds resilience in veterans and military families in order to aggressively combat the causes and impacts of veteran suicide.

Baublitz, 36, of Thompson, CT, previously served as the Brookfield Institute’s program director. Founding director Beverly Prestwood-Taylor is now the chief operating officer and will be focusing on development and infrastructure.

Baublitz has been with The Brookfield Institute for two years, helping start the Women Veterans Initiative, contributing to the Resilience in Uncertain Times project and getting a new volunteer initiative, HomeFront Strong, up and running.

A teacher, a leader and a member of a military family, Baublitz brings experience and knowledge to her new position. “I am thrilled and humbled to be presented with this invaluable opportunity to deliver crucial programs that are fully inclusive for all service members, veterans, and their families,” Baublitz said.

Baublitz currently teaches for three departments at Assumption University — Psychology, Human Services and Rehabilitation Studies, and School Counseling. She teaches “Strengthening Resilience for Service Members, Veterans, and their Families” — a course designed for clinicians and service providers. Her husband is Active Guard Reserve in the Connecticut Air National Guard; he has served for 17 years and counting. She has also served in various roles, including classroom teacher (gr.



Brookfield Institute Jennifer Baublitz
Jennifer Baublitz has been named executive director of the Brookfield Institute, a nonprofit that builds resilience in veterans and military families in order to aggressively combat the causes and impacts of veteran suicide.



COURTESY PHOTOS
Beverly Prestwood-Taylor, who was previously executive director of the Brookfield Institute, is now the chief operating officer and will be focusing on development and infrastructure.

6), behavior interventionist, consulting teacher for integration, education consultant, program consultant and program manager.

“As a military spouse of 18 years with two military children at home and a background in education, counseling, and resilience, it has become my passion to integrate these specialties in service of recognizing all who serve, and closing the gaps in services that persist as a result of exclusive criteria around access. It is rare that the personal and professional goals of an individual align so perfectly with the mission of an organization, and yet I have managed to find just that.”

Prestwood-Taylor said Baublitz will hit the ground running in her new

position. “She’s not only part of a military family, but she has advanced training in resilience training and teaching.” Prestwood-Taylor will continue to spearhead the Brookfield Institute’s food distribution program (which is undergoing some changes) and the Military Bereavement Support Group.

The Brookfield Institute, www.brookfieldinstitute.org, was founded in 2007 with a mission to ensure every military and veteran family has the necessary support to achieve optimal social, spiritual, physical and mental health for joyful, meaningful lives. Public events, trainings, support groups and outreach help achieve that goal.

Mass Humanities announces joint project

NORTHAMPTON — Mass Humanities is pleased to announce a collaborative partnership with Mississippi Humanities to produce six interactive, online programs to facilitate conversation and connection. By reflecting on the both states’ histories in relationship to each other, this series aims to build understanding and offer new perspectives. At a time when the pandemic has created a greater sense of isolation, the organizations hope to forge connections.

The first of the sessions took place in the beginning of December and focused on images and impressions of the two states, bringing curiosity to questions about how communities view each other. The two speakers, W. Ralph Eubanks, Visiting Professor at the Center for the Study of Southern

Culture at the University of Mississippi, and Michael Gorra, Mary Augusta Jordan Professor of English Language & Literature at Smith College, touched on the literary heritage of Mississippi and Massachusetts to offer reflections on how some of the greatest writers have informed and complicated views of each other.

On Jan. 14, 2021, the second session, Inside/Out: Lessons of Freedom Summer, will explore the Civil Rights Movement from the perspectives of Mississippi organizers and Massachusetts volunteers who took part in the 1964 Mississippi Freedom Summer Project. The moderator will be Daphne Chamberlain, Assistant Professor of History Tougaloo College, and guest speakers will include:

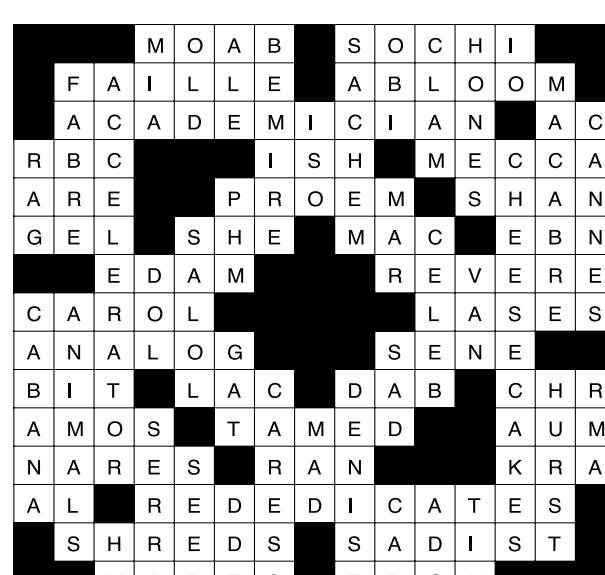
• Roy DeBerry, co-founder of the

Hill Country Project

- Elaine DeLott Baker, CORE Staff member
- Charles Cobb, journalist, author, and educator
- Arekia Bennett, executive director of Mississippi Votes

“In a deeply divided nation, we believe this is a time to build new bridges,” said Brian Boyles, Executive Director of Mass Humanities. “These conversations reflect the common ground, sometimes unacknowledged, between places as different as Massachusetts and Mississippi. We’re glad to work with our colleagues at Mississippi Humanities Council to bring people together from across our states to get at the issues and look for possible ways to bring forth real change together through the humanities.”

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If you would like to join the Home Delivered Meals team of drivers as a substitute, please call the Belchertown Selectmen’s Office, at (413) 323-0403, for an application packet. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

MinuteClinic video visit offering now available

Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week through the CVS Pharmacy App and on MinuteClinic.com.

CVS Health has announced that MinuteClinic, the medical clinic inside CVS Pharmacy, is now offering Video Visits for patients in the state of Massachusetts. The service is available in 46 states and Washington, DC.

People in Massachusetts can now seek care for non-emergency, routine health care through MinuteClinic Video Visits, a telehealth offering. Video Visits are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can be accessed via a mobile device or computer. Video Visits are also an effective screening option for people that may have COVID-19, enabling patients to talk with a health care provider and have a basic screening to determine their risk for COVID-19, without having to leave home.

"As the COVID-19 resurgence continues across the country, our MinuteClinic Video Visits are an easy, affordable way for people to receive care for a variety of routine health care needs without having to leave home," said Sharon Vitti, President, MinuteClinic. "The expansion of this service into Massachusetts enables us to provide local residents with expanded access to an on-demand telehealth option."

Video visits can be used to provide care for patients ages two years and older who are seeking treatment for a minor illness, minor injury, or a skin condition. Each patient will complete a health questionnaire and be matched to a board-certified health care provider licensed in their state, who will review the completed questionnaire with the patient's medical history and proceed with the video-enabled visit.

During a MinuteClinic Video Visit, the provider will assess the patient's condition and determine the appropriate course of treatment following evidence-based clinical care guidelines. For patients who require a prescription as part of their treatment plan, the provider will submit the prescription to the patient's preferred pharmacy. If it is determined the patient should be seen in person for follow-up care or testing, the provider will recommend that the patient visit a health care provider in their community, such as their primary care provider or a nearby MinuteClinic location.

Working collaboratively with Teladoc (NYSE: TDOC), the global leader in virtual care, and utilizing Teladoc's technology platform, patients can receive care via a MinuteClinic Video Visit, initiated through their computer or mobile device, including through the CVS Pharmacy app. Patients who opt to seek care through a fully customized MinuteClinic Video Visit experience the same high-quality, evidence-based care they receive at traditional MinuteClinic locations inside select CVS Pharmacy and Target stores.

MinuteClinic Video Visits cost about \$59. Video Visits are also covered by most Aetna insurance plans.

Information about initiating a MinuteClinic Video Visit can be found as part of the clinic locator on the MinuteClinic web site for states where the service is available. A patient can also initiate a MinuteClinic Video Visit directly from the CVS Pharmacy app.

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Members of the Amherst Health Department helped to inform first responders receiving their COVID-19 vaccine of the process to get vaccinated at the Bangs Center last week.



Belchertown Fire Fighter Scott Chapman received his first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine administered by Amherst Fire fighter and Belchertown resident Kaylan Valocvin.

VACCINE • from page 1

vaccines on Thursday, Jan. 14.

Czerwinski said the vaccine was "painless."

"I'm here doing my part," he said. "It's just like wearing a mask or social distancing and using proper hygiene."

By the time he left the Bangs Center, Czerwinski scheduled his next vaccine for the first week in February.

Chapman said outside of a sore arm he didn't have any symptoms.

"I feel pretty good, I've read that reactions are rarer (in this vaccine) than other vaccines," he said. "We're vaccinating millions of people with that. Some people will have a reaction, some will have a reaction with the first vaccine, some will have one with the second, some will have one with both."

He said he encourages people to do research and get vaccinated.

"I encourage people to talk to their healthcare provider about the vaccine," he added.

Chapman said the vaccine works by a "benign way."

"The vaccine uses mRNA, which is a messenger, to bring in a message that your body could encounter a new



Interim Granby Fire Chief Robert Czerwinski signs a poster which will be sent to Moderna thanking them for the COVID-19 vaccine.

virus and it needs to create something to stop it," said Chapman.

He added that people go to sources including the Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for information about the vaccine.

In order to get to 70 to 80% of people vaccinated, which is considered herd immunity, people need to get vaccinated, said Chapman.

"People have reasons, and some of those reasons are valid, but some of it is just fear of the unknown. Researching will help that," he said. "I got the vaccine because I wanted to protect my family. I still wear my mask and clean surfaces and social distance. We want to protest everyone, our colleagues, our families, ourselves."

For information on COVID-19 vaccines go to <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>.

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Live-streaming could be available for high school games

GREGORY A. SCIBELLI
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION — Basketball and hockey may be starting up in the next week or two depending on what school you are playing for, but your ability to catch a game is about as limited as your ability to go to the TD Garden or Fenway Park.

But your favorite high school action may be coming, and for free, to a handheld or other computer device near you.

Many schools, beginning this week with Quabbin Regional's regular season basketball games, will be made available to its faithful utilizing a couple of platforms.

Quabbin's games will be seen on its YouTube channel.

Several schools have YouTube channels, where it now video tapes or streams various events live for people to see. The trend became popular last year in June when many schools lost out on their traditional graduation ceremonies.

It is unclear if those types of ceremonies will be able to return this year, making the ability to stream so people who cannot be there in person can watch, even



Hockey games this season may be found on Livabarn or a school's social media website.

more important.

There are more ways various schools in the region will stream games for fans. Among them, Agawam and several other

schools will utilize Facebook, while others may use the National Federation of High Schools website to do games.

Hockey games at Olympia Ice



FILE PHOTOS
Social media sites like Facebook or YouTube channels could be used by area high schools to livestream winter sporting events.

Center in West Springfield will utilize a website called Livabarn. There will be no fans allowed at swim meets, though many schools are planning to stream those

events utilizing social media.

Regardless of the platform, there could be many high school

See **LIVE-STREAMING**, page 10 •

RACING



SUBMITTED PHOTO
The Tri Track Open Modified Series will have six dates in 2021 for its competition.

Tri track modified series confirms six 2021 dates

SEEKONK — The Tri Track Open Modified Series officials confirmed on Tuesday six dates for the 2021 season. The series will compete at three different tracks in two different New England states, headlined by multiple staple events and the anticipated return to Massachusetts.

Fans can expect a return to Monadnock Speedway (twice), two stops at Star Speedway, including the 10th annual SBM, and two stops at Seekonk Speedway -- including the prestigious \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday and the fan-favorite Haunted Hundred.

The season begins back on the high-banks of Monadnock, in Winchester, New Hampshire,

with a 100-lap feature on Saturday, May 1. The date will be part of Monadnock's opening Spring Dash weekend, which will also include their NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series divisions and the Granite State Pro Stock Series. Tri Track will visit Monadnock for a second time on Saturday, August 14, joined again by Monadnock's weekly divisions. The track has been a regular circuit on the Tri Track schedule -- one that places series regulars against the weekly competitors, which often come close to Victory Lane. Craig Lutz and Sam Rameau won events at Monadnock in a COVID-19

See **TRI-TRACK**, page 10 •

BASEBALL

Tournaments for baseball in question

GREGORY A. SCIBELLI
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION — As time continues to run short on the various 2020-2021 seasons, the opportunity for area fans to see their favorite sports' sectional tournaments is running out.

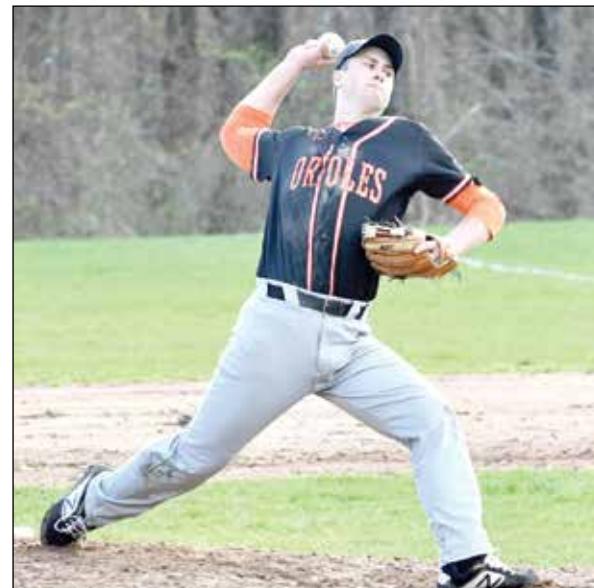
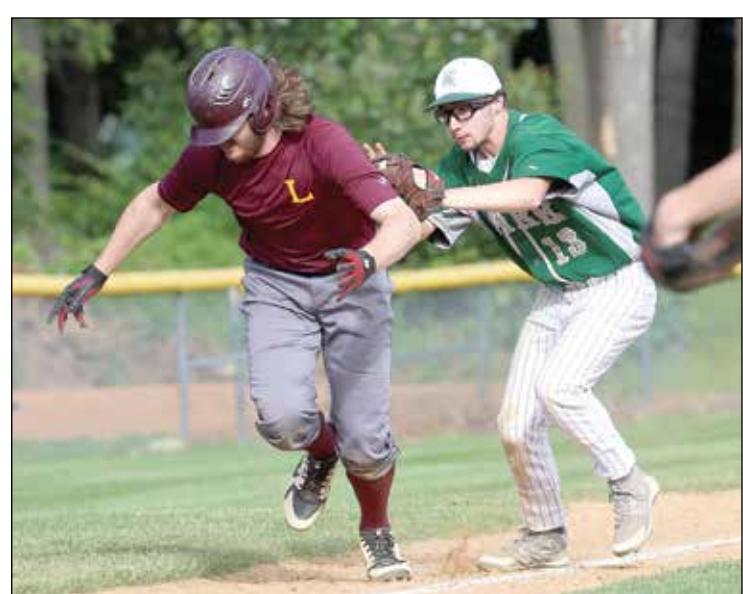
When the majority of the member schools in Massachusetts voted for the change to a statewide tournament and eliminate the sectional tournaments sponsored by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, many Western Mass. schools voted against the idea.

The Western Mass. tournament, especially in certain sports like soccer and basketball, has been an important event to the region between the ability to obtain bragging rights for an area of the state often segregated from the rest.

The 2020-2021 school was set to be the final year with a sectional tournament, a sobering fact for fans of soccer and basketball who were used to the spectacle of seeing the best teams compete for the soccer title at big venues like Westfield State University, and Curry Hicks Cage in the case of basketball.

In the spring, UMass is also a very popular site, often hosting the semifinals and finals of the Western Mass. softball and baseball tournaments. The sites also host state semifinal games on a rotating basis.

See **BASEBALL**, page 10 •



ABOVE:
UMass has been a popular site for the Western Mass. baseball tournament.

FILE PHOTOS

The spring baseball tournament is still in question as conditions in six months are hard to predict right now.

SPORTS**Pioneers to host Pelham clinic**

LUDLOW — Western United Pioneers FC is excited to offer a soccer clinic in Pelham, MA for players in the Massachusetts North Region. The fall clinic provides off-season training and skill development by WUP FC coaches. There are two sessions available, sign up for one or both. It makes a great holiday gift for friends and family members.

This program is offered to boys and girls born in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014. The four-week program includes one practice per week for a total of \$65 per session (\$130 for 2 sessions). Sessions will consist of a max of 15 players per field (COVID regulation for the players' safety).

SESSION 1:**MONDAYS 1/25, 2/1, and 2/8**

Boys and Girls Born 2013 and 2014: Session is at 5 p.m.

Boys and Girls Born 2010, 2011, and 2012: Session is at 6 p.m.

SESSION 2:**MONDAYS 2/22, 3/1, 3/8, and 3/15**

Boys and Girls Born 2013 and 2014: Session is at 5 p.m.

Boys and Girls Born 2010, 2011, and 2012: Session is at 6 p.m.

The sessions will be held at Pelham Elementary School at 45 Amherst Road, Pelham, MA 01002.

New umpires needed for 2021 season

REGION — The Western Massachusetts Baseball Umpire Association is looking for individuals who are interested in umpiring baseball at the high school and youth level. The WMBUA services high school baseball and various other leagues in the Greater Springfield area/ Hampden County.

The WMBUA's first year members class will be held for roughly five to six weeks, beginning in February. The class dates right now are fluid as the organization monitors what happens with the COVID-19 pandemic. Class is usually one or two nights per week from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

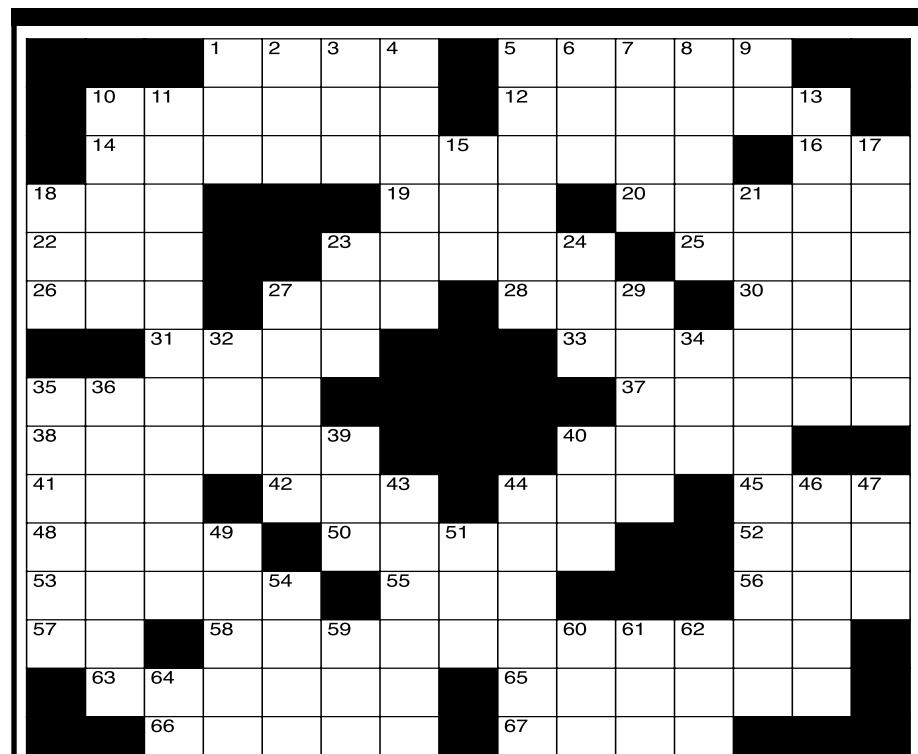
The class takes place in the First Baptist Church of East Longmeadow's classrooms at 50 Parker Street. Classes may also be virtual if COVID-19 does not allow for in-person meetings.

If you are interested in taking the classes, contact Chris Meffen, the WMBUA Secretary, via email at cmeffen8017@gmail.com or visit the WMBUA website at <http://wmbua.org>.

Sign-ups now available for 2021 Relics

LUDLOW — The Western Mass Relics has opened registration for the 2021 Senior Softball Season. The Silver Division (age 50 to 64) has filled 36 of the 112 spots and the Gold Division (65-and-up) has filled 32 of

the 96 spots. The registrations are accepted on a first come first serve basis. All our games are played at the Fish & Game in Ludlow. For further information or to register go to <http://www.westernmassrelics.org>.

**CLUES ACROSS**

- Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 2014 Winter Olympics host
- Soft fabric
- Covered in flowers
- Works at a college or university
- Keeps us cool
- Corpuscle count (abbr.)
- Similar
- Birthplace of Muhammad
- They __
- Preamble to a book
- Southern China people
- Hair product
- The woman
- Partner to cheese
- One point north of due east
- Round Dutch cheese
- Be in awe of
- Christmas song
- Emits coherent radiation
- Something that is comparable to another
- Monetary unit
- The cutting part of a drill
- Resinlike substance secreted by certain insects
- Touch lightly
- Toyota SUV
- __ and Andy, TV show
- Made less dangerous
- Assets under management (abbr.)
- Nostrils
- Moved quickly
- Thai isthmus
- TV personality Roker
- Honors anew
- Rags
- One who obtains pleasure from inflicting pain or others
- Marketplaces
- Dark brown or black

CLUES DOWN

- Nowhere to be found (abbr.)
- Not new
- Brew
- Stain with mud
- Chief or leader
- Luke Skywalker's mentor __-Wan
- Type of sauce
- Sharpens
- Priestess loved by Zeus
- Jean Henri __, French entomologist
- Regulates supply of fuel
- Disturbing and horrifying
- Equal (prefix)
- Hosts film festival
- Tattered piece of clothing
- Rich desserts
- Unique motor (abbr.)
- Disfigure
- Dark brown or black
- Slang for famous person
- Department of Labor
- A-team rode around in one
- Beach cabin
- Living things
- Gun (slang)
- Disconsolate
- Stroke gently
- Actress Richards
- Cletus Hogg" actor
- Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- Brazilian mountain range
- Upset
- One with supernatural insight
- Insecticide
- Taxi
- Much __ about nothing"
- Cannister
- Popular clothing retailer

Golf outing helps area veterans, military families**STAFF REPORT**

WARE — Sponsors and golfers are needed for a May 7 golf outing that will benefit area veterans and military families.

The Operation Soaring Eagle Golf Tournament will be held May 7 at the Heritage Country Club in Charlton and will benefit The Brookfield Institute, a nonprofit that builds resilience in veterans and military families in order to aggressively combat the causes and impacts of veteran suicide.

Registration is now open for golfers. The outing costs \$125 per person and includes 18 holes in a scramble format with a shotgun start, awards and a steak dinner. The outing is for ages 21 and older.

Sponsorships of all levels are still available, ranging from the tournament sponsor to hole sponsors. Sponsor bene-

fits include golfing, recognition on banners, signs and websites and in media announcements and advertising.

"We're excited to help people get to know The Brookfield Institute and its mission and that includes reaching out to different interest groups," said Jennifer Baublitz, executive director. "This is our first event for golfers and was suggested by a board member who recognizes the need to widen our outreach."

The golf outing will begin Friday, May 7, at 9 a.m., with a cocktail hour at 3 p.m. followed by the steak dinner and awards. The Heritage Country Club is at 85 Sampson Road Charlton, MA 01507.

To become a sponsor for the Operation Soaring Eagle Golf Tournament, contact Beverly Prestwood-Taylor, beverly@brookfieldinstitute.org, 508-784-1546. To register golfers, go to www.brookfieldinstitute.org.

LIVE-STREAM • from page 9

games available to fans during the next months, making it possible for fans to be able to stay in on the action for this season. The trend could continue outdoors next month if football games are unable to have fans at their games, though guidance have not been issued and things could drastically change in the next month depending on the government's ability to step up vaccinations under the Biden administration.

Fan rule policies were made by the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic

Association. Despite hesitation over being indoors, up to two home fans per students will be allowed in some schools, much like the fall policy, Agawam Athletic Director and PVIAC Board member David Stratton said.

Not all schools will host fans, however, and much of it depends on how strict a particular town's school department or health department is about the issue. Fans who are allowed to attend basketball or hockey games must be masked and social distance. With basketball having much smaller rosters than soccer and field hockey, it should limit the number of people attending games.

BASEBALL • from page 9

Recently, the baseball committee under the MIAA was discussing the possibilities of whether or not there will be a tournament this spring. The fall and winter tournaments were already cancelled, denying fans their opportunity to have a final sectional under the MIAA banner.

At their Jan. 6 meeting, the committee established a sub-committee to begin studying potential rule changes to the game along with an end-of-season tournament proposal.

The baseball season is currently scheduled to begin in late April, falling the "bubble" or Fall 2 season. Any tournament may be held at the end of June and there is more of a chance for a tournament versus other seasons because the vacci-

nation effort for COVID-19 could be in more advance stages leading to a relaxing of social distancing and large gathering guidelines.

Schedules and tournaments have been largely influenced by an interest in keeping interactions limited. Tournaments that draw lots of fans and matchups between random schools paired together in brackets were eliminated in favor of playing in small geographic bubbles and keeping most schools playing just a small number of opponents.

Baseball could also see some rule changes, though those modifications could be limited because the sport largely allows for social distancing and very limited contact between players on the same or opposing teams.

TRI-TRACK • from page 9

shortened 2020 season.

On May 22, Tri Track will return to Star Speedway in Epping, New Hampshire, for the first of two dates on the 2021 calendar. Star has also been well-known for the annual SBM event, which returns for the 10th annual feature spectacular on Saturday, July 24. Two dates at Star in the midst of their packed schedule will give race fans a chance to watch Modifieds tear up the quarter-mile again. Matt Hirschman, a five-time and defending Tri Track champion, went to Victory Lane at Star last year.

With two dates, the return to Massachusetts and Seekonk Speedway is highly anticipated by the series, teams, drivers and fans. Seekonk will host the annual \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday event on Wednesday, June 30, and also host the Haunted Hundred on

Saturday, Oct. 23.

As part of the Haunted Hundred -- for the first time -- all three races during the day will be 100 laps. Tri Track headlines the action, crowning the 2021 champion, while the stars of the Pro All Star Series (PASS) and American Canadian Tour (ACT) will also compete in their championship events during the season-finale, which will also end the 75th year of full-time racing at Seekonk in style.

The 2021 schedule is subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Registration for the 2021 season will open on January 28, to be completed by drivers and teams through the Tri Track website. More information will be released closer to that date. For more information on the Tri Track Open Modified Series, visit TriTrackModifieds.com and follow the series on social media.

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AMHERST

Meg Gennings re-appointed to National Farm Bureau Issues Advisory Committee

STAFF REPORT

MARLBOROUGH – Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to announce that Meg Gennings from Amherst has been re-appointed by American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall to AFBF's animal care advisory committee.

AFBF's advisory committees play an important role in the organization's policy implementation and development. Committee members make contributions to AFBF's mission, from participating in advocacy fly-ins and doing media interviews to helping the organization development comments on proposed regulations and providing input into the resolutions process.

"We are pleased Meg was re-appointed to this issue advisory committee for American Farm Bureau Federation," said MFBF President Mark Amato. "She has grown into an excellent leader as part of our organization and is an excellent communicator. Meg will assist in building the communications bridge between AFBF and our state. I look forward to hearing the information she brings back."

Gennings works at UMass in the animal science department, where she assists with the day-to-day management of the university's livestock. She previously worked as the livestock manager of Lilac Hedge Farm in Rutland.

She has been involved in the Worcester County Farm Bureau board of directors; chairs the statewide promotion and education committee; and serves on the equine and young farmers and ranchers (YF&R) committees. She also is involved in the Nunoa Project, which helps camelids in Peru and the United States, and volunteers at Bureau of Land Management



COURTESY PHOTO

Meg Gennings, of Amherst, was recently re-appointed to the National Farm Bureau Issues Advisory Committee.

Wild Horse and Burro adoption events in the Northeast.

Gennings holds a Bachelor of Science in animal science and pre-veterinary medicine from the University of Massachusetts and a Master of Science in agricultural and extension education from North Carolina State University.

She was re-appointed in January 2021 and will serve a two-year term.

OBITUARY

Mike Cavatorta

BELCHERTOWN – Mike Cavatorta died very unexpectedly at home on Nov. 28, 2020. He is deeply missed by his family "pod" which includes his wife, Meeghan Ziolkowski, daughter Zia, as well as Allegra Welly, Eileen Welly, Maura Ziolkowski, Mark Reed and nephew Jack. He is also survived by his parents, Gene and Joanne Cavatorta, and brother Andy Cavatorta.



Mike was a deeply good person. He was devoted to his family and friends and worked tirelessly to support them. He loved and cared for nature, serving on the Belchertown Conservation Commission for a decade. Mike was such a hard worker but also an artist — able to fix or make almost anything — and he built many pieces of livable art as well as homes. He completed a degree in philosophy and it showed daily; he was curious and thought deeply about the people and world around him, always seeking deeper understanding.

Mike loved adventure, especially with his family, and spent months kayaking, living in the wilderness and researching whales.

Nothing can replace the loss of such a special homeschooling dad, who would read The Lord of the Rings aloud to his daughter Zia, for hours everyday; he would eagerly help with climbing adventures, building elaborate forts, lego dragons and so much more.

In remembrance of Mike, the family requests donations be made for his daughter's education and support. Donations can be made out to the "Zia Cavatorta Fund" and sent to their home at 44 Grela Terrace, Belchertown, MA 01007 or directly deposited in the fund at Florence Bank.

The family also welcomes you to email memories and photos for his daughter to PoppaMikeMemories@gmail.com.

There will be a memorial by Zoom on the afternoon of Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021. Email his wife at meeghanziolkowski@gmail.com if you would like the link to attend.

Death Notice

Mike Cavatorta
Died Nov. 28, 2020

The Sentinel OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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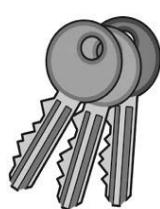
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■ GRANBY

Granby library updates

GRANBY – Here are the latest events and happenings at the Granby Public Library.

Girl scout stuffed with comfort

Amber Tucker, a Junior from Hopkins Academy, is currently working on her Gold Award Project. The Gold Award is the highest Award a Girl Scout can earn. For her two-part project she collected stuffed animals to be donated to the Hadley Fire and Police Department for children during disastrous situations such as fires and car accidents. Tucker was inspired to do this project because she has always adored stuffed animals.

The other half of her project is take home "Make your own Teddy Bear" Kits. She partnered with Granby Free Public Library Youth Service Librarian, Janice McArdle, to make this project possible. Tucker was creatively able to tailor this sewing a teddy bear project to suit the present pandemic times by creating "Take and Make" kits for families to do at home.

The Teddy Bear Kits that Tucker created include everything that is needed to create your own teddy bear. It is a simple pattern and simple stitching. She made an instructional booklet with a follow along video which can be found on GranbyLibrary.com (Thanks to Arwen King for editing the Video, Troop 1267)

Call the library to sign up for a Teddy bear kit (for ages 6 and up) during library hours Tuesday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at 413-467-3320. Once you sign up for a kit, you may pick up your kit the week of January 19 to 22.

Baby - Toddler Sign Language Classes Live Online

Are you ready to help your young child to communicate



COURTESY PHOTO
Amber Tucker, a Junior from Hopkins Academy created "Teddy Bear Kits" available through the Granby Public Library.

objects, emotions and desires by using some easy baby sign language?

Join a six week live, online series on Wednesday mornings from 10:30 to 11 a.m. starting Jan. 20 and running to March 4, free, brought to you by The Collaborative for Educational Services.

Each week we will be learning new ASL signs and how to

use them to support young children learn and use language, gain early literacy skills, and decrease frustration/challenging behaviors. Attend as many as you like.

The Granby Library playgroup facilitator and young child whisperer, Marti Wiechman, Early Learning Specialist will be teaching the classes. Email Marti for the zoom link at mwiechman@collaborative.org.

GCAM seeks feedback

GRANBY – The Granby Community Access and Media is asking the public to fill out a survey so they can help put

together more community-based programming every week.

There will be two chances to with a \$25 Dunkin gift card. To

fill out the survey, go to: <https://forms.gle/7D83YP8KvUa9ndyP8>.

Granby Clerk Reminders

STAFF REPORT

GRANBY – The following are updates from the Granby Town Clerk's office.

Annual Census information: The 2021 Annual Census has been mailed out.

Compliance with this state requirement provides proof of residence, it protects voting rights, veteran's bonuses, housing for the elderly and related benefits.

Please mail back your Census.

The Annual Town Census does not register you as a voter or change your party enrollment. You must fill out a voter registration form or a change of enrollment card.

Also included with the Census is a flyer pertaining to voting, office hours and dog licensing.

Dog Licenses: The annual census contains a pre-registration form, and this is the first notice for the 2021 dog licenses. Dog licenses are valid from April – April of each year however, if you wish to

pre-register your dogs for 2021 please follow the instructions on the form and return with the census, or you may wait until March or April and stop by the office to license your dog. Please note that after May 1, 2021, a \$25 late charge may be applied along with the annual dog fee.

If you choose to pre-register your dog, you will receive the 2021 dog license by March 31.

Thanking you all in advance for your cooperation with this mailing.

Nomination papers: Nomination papers will be available for issuance starting on Feb. 1, 2021. Any person interested in seeking elected office in Granby must take out nomination papers from the town clerk no later than Thursday, March 25 to be placed on the Monday, May 17 ballot.

Please continue to check our website at www.granby-ma.gov for any further information on any of our town affairs.

For any questions or concerns please call the Town Clerk's office at 467-7178.

Chamber of Commerce to host annual dinner meeting

The annual dinner meeting of the South Hadley & Granby Chamber of Commerce will be on Tuesday, Feb. 2. The event is open to both members and non-members.

The annual dinner meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021 starting at 5 p.m. This event will be a virtual Zoom meeting.

Tickets for this event are \$10 and must be pre-purchased online or invoiced so that the link can be sent. Please purchase your tickets or request an invoice by Jan. 27, 2021.

For the first time ever, this event will feature a comedy improv show provided by Happier Valley Comedy.

For your convenience, you can purchase tickets online for the

event online! You may purchase tickets online at <https://www.shgchamber.com/events/annualinnermeetin>.

Enjoy the show from the comfort of your home or office! To be in spirit of this event on Groundhog's Day, please join in the Punxsutawney Punch, recipe below or your favorite beverage as the chamber toasts in the New Year!

If your business requires an invoice, please contact melissa@shgchamber.com.

The chamber is also looking for sponsors for the event. If you're interested in sponsoring this Event, please contact Steven Laplante at steven.laplante@era.com or Melissa Whitelock at melissa@shgchamber.com.

■ SENIORS

Belchertown senior center January updates

BELCHERTOWN – The following are updates from the Belchertown Senior Center.

Belchertown Conducting Age and Dementia Friendly Community Assessment

The Belchertown Age and Dementia Friendly Working Group, in partnership with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is seeking input from older adults and people who provide care for older adults in Belchertown. The working group has developed a survey to gather input from older adults and their caregivers on a number of aspects of the community that make it a good place in which to grow old. With the results of this survey, and public forums that will be scheduled after the first of the year, the group will develop an Age and Dementia Friendly Community Assessment and Action Plan. This report will be submitted to the AARP and Dementia Friendly

Massachusetts, providing the town with official designation as an Age and Dementia Friendly Community and a road map for changes that can be made to the social and built environments to make the Town a more welcoming place for people of all ages and abilities.

The Age and Dementia Friendly Belchertown project is part of a larger Age Friendly Pioneer Valley initiative that the PVPC is leading with funding from the Tufts Health Plan Foundation. Through this initiative, PVPC is providing technical assistance to communities in the PVPC service area (Hampden and Hampshire Counties) to help them become Age and Dementia Friendly and to complete community assessments and action plans. The initiative also includes quarterly meetings of an Age Friendly Pioneer Valley Collaborative, where individuals from communities working on Age and Dementia Friendly activities

can share information and experience and learn from experts in the "eight domains of livability," the World Health Organization's model for the aspects of the social and built environments that contribute to a community's Age Friendliness.

"We are excited to be assisting the communities in our service area to become more Age and Dementia Friendly," said Becky Basch, Senior Planner with the PVPC. "The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted issues such as social isolation and transportation barriers that face older adults in non-COVID times, so we believe it's a critical time to plan for facilities and services that can help older adults participate more fully in their communities."

The Belchertown Livable Community Survey is posted on the Council on Aging website at https://www.belchertown.org/council_on_aging_senior_center/index or in hard copy form (contact the COA at 413-323-

0420 ext. 503 to request a hard copy). All respondents may enter a drawing to receive a Stop and Shop gift card once the survey is closed. For more information on the Age Friendly Community effort, contact Becky Basch.

Survey Link: - <https://forms.gle/CwCNvWdAkNFT2Vcd7>.

Masks must be worn when visiting

Please remember when visiting the Belchertown Senior Center that masks must be worn at all times.

Whether visiting to drop off borrowed medical equipment or requested paperwork, or picking up puzzles or items from the community food pantry, kindly remember to wear your mask.

Even when outside, regardless if anyone else is currently in the area.

Pen Pals

Recently, the senior center have received requests from students of

all ages to become pen pals with some of the senior center friends.

Please call Katy if interested in being matched with a Belchertown student for some friendly correspondence.

Enclosed Porch

The Belchertown DPW has enclosed the porch to the Center with plastic to keep both the items and staff protected from the elements. Please feel welcome to visit the porch as usual for food and previously arranged drop off or pick up of items and please remember to always wear your mask.

Meals

Jan. 22 – Potato pollock
Jan. 25 – Chicken cordon bleu
Jan. 26 – Beef bourguignon
Jan. 27 – Hot dog
Jan. 28 – Chicken Dijon
Jan. 29 – Pollock crunch

EDUCATION

College NOTES

Caleb Ireland of Amherst named a Dana Scholar at Bates College

LEWISTON, ME – Caleb Ireland of Amherst, was one of 20 members of the Bates College class of 2023 to be named a Dana Scholar. Ireland, the son of Michael K. Ireland and Ruth Loescher Ireland, is a 2019 graduate of Amherst Regional High School.

Established in 1965 through the support of the Charles A. Dana Foundation, the Dana Scholars Program recognizes exemplary academic excellence and promise, leadership potential, and community service. The program grants awards to 20 students from each first-year class.

Warner Adams of Belchertown named to Vermont Tech Dean's List for Fall 2020

RANDOLPH CENTER, VT – Vermont Tech congratulates Warner Adams for achieving Dean's List Honors during the fall semester of 2020. Adams is pursuing their Bachelor of Science in the Professional Pilot Technology program at Vermont Tech.

Dean's List honorees must carry 12 or more letter-graded credit hours and achieve a minimum 3.5 GPA for the semester.

President Patricia Moulton said this of all Vermont Tech honor students;

"The competing priorities of enduring a pandemic while making progress in one's degree are often at cross purposes. I am impressed and humbled by the achievements of these students to excel in the face of these challenges."

"Being named Dana Scholar is the highest honor that a Bates first-year student can achieve," said Malcolm Hill, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty. "We recognize in these students a commitment to academic excellence, informed civic action, and leadership. The Dana Scholarship celebrates promise, and is remarkably predictive of future success."

Located in Lewiston, Maine, Bates is internationally recognized as a leading liberal arts college, attracting 2,000 students from across the U.S. and around the world.

Jordan Kruse of Belchertown graduates from Pennsylvania State University

STATE COLLEGE, PA – Jordan Kruse, of Belchertown, graduated from the Pennsylvania State University on Dec. 19, 2020. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Nuclear Engineering and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He's now working as a nuclear engineer for Westinghouse Electric in Cranberry Township, PA. He's a 2016 graduate of Belchertown High School.



Belchertown children's meals program menu

For the week of Jan. 25 to 31

Note: Tuesday through Thursday are small meal kit items

Small Meal kits (five days of meals)

Breakfast: bagel with cream cheese, mini donuts, banana bread, cereal bar, cereal with yogurt, assorted fresh, canned and dried fruit and 100% juice.

Lunch: hamburger on a bun, grilled cheese with goldfish pretzels, cheese pizza with a Rice Krispie Treat, sunbutter and jelly Uncrustable, deli sandwich, assorted fresh and frozen vegetables and 100% juice.

Milk: half gallon and two pints

Large meal kits (seven days of meals)

Breakfast: Pop Tarts with string cheese, bagel with cream cheese, assorted whole grain pastry, mini donuts, banana bread, cereal bar, cereal with yogurt, assorted fresh, canned and dried fruit and 100% juice.

Lunch: chicken nachos with a churro, hamburger on a bun, grilled cheese with goldfish pretzels, cheese pizza with a Rice Krispie Treat, oven roasted chicken with a garlic knot or dinner roll, sunbutter and jelly Uncrustable, deli sandwich, assorted fresh and frozen vegetables and 100% juice.

Milk: one gallon.



UMass Music & Dance to present livestreamed concert by Kathryn Lockwood

AMHERST – On Friday, Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m., the University of Massachusetts Amherst Department of Music and Dance will present a free solo performance by viola professor Kathryn Lockwood. The concert, which will be livestreamed from Bezanson Recital Hall to the department's YouTube Channel, will feature performances of J.S. Bach's Suite No. 5 in C minor, Max Reger's Viola Suite No. 2 in D Major and György Kurtág's Signs, Games and Messages for Viola.

Lockwood has been actively performing during the pandemic as a member of world-music ensemble duo Jalal with percussionist Yousif Sheronick. The ensemble has staged live streamed performances from the historic Hempstead House at New York's Sands Point Preserve.

Honor roll additions

BELCHERTOWN – The following names are additions to the Belchertown High School quarter one honor roll.

Julia Hubbard - grade 12 - High Honors

Caleb O'Brien - grade 12 - Honors

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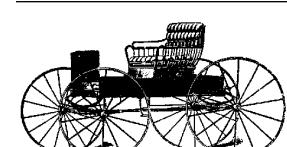
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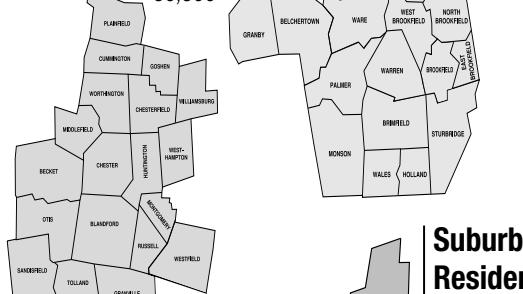
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The Town of Belchertown will receive sealed bids labeled "SALE OF TOWN OWNED SURPLUS VEHICLES" at the Office of the Board of Selectmen, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, Massachusetts 01007, until 2:30 p.m. on February 19, 2021. At that time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bid forms and additional information on the listed vehicles can be obtained by calling the Office of the Belchertown Board of Selectmen at (413) 323-0403. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope and labeled "Bid #2021-02".

1 – 2000 Chevrolet Express Cargo Van (w/approx. 70,748 miles)

1 – 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe (w/approx. 112,860 miles)

1 – 2003 Chevrolet Silverado Pickup Truck (w/approx. 62,707 miles)

The successful bidder(s) must pay in full within ten (10) days by check, at which time the vehicles will become the possession of the successful bidder. The Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to award the bid in the best interest of the Town of Belchertown. Vehicles are offered in "As Is, Salvage or Parts Only" Condition.

Gary L. Brougham, Town Administrator
Town of Belchertown
01/21, 01/28/2021

Notice of Planning Board Hearing Relative to Proposed Zoning By-law Amendments Pursuant to MGL c.40A, §5

In accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A, Sections 9 and 11, the Planning Board will hold a remote public hearing to discuss proposed Amendments to the Towns zoning bylaw Article X-Common Drive Development bylaw.

A public hearing will be held as follows:

Place: Remotely by Planning Board, Belchertown

Date: February 23, 2021

Time: 7:05 PM

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The subject matter of the proposed amendments is as indicated below.

To revise ARTICLE X-§145-42 through §145-50.

The proposal is available for inspection on the Belchertown.org- Planning Board website and at mass-publicnotices.org

James Natle

Chairman, Planning Board
01/21, 01/28/2021

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POLICE LOGS

Belchertown Police

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of Jan. 6 through Jan. 12. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Of the 276 calls police responded to, there were 10 incidents, two accidents, two arrest/summons and six citations.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS

There were no publishable arrests this week.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Jan. 6

9:09 a.m. – Officers responded to a two-car accident on North Main St. Two vehicles were travelling north on North Main St. when a third vehicle stopped waiting to turn left into crystal springs. Two of the vehicles attempted to go around on the right-hand side and struck each other. No injuries were reported and no vehicles were towed.

12:32 p.m. – A Belchertown resident turned in a briefcase that was found at North Main St business. It was found that the suitcase belonged to a Gilbertville resident.

3:14 p.m. – Officers took a report of unemployment fraud.

Thursday, Jan. 7

10:31 a.m. – A Belchertown resident came into station with a diamond ring they found in a parking lot at the Quabbin. The ring was put into evidence.

7:42 p.m. – Officers responded for a

wellbeing check on an individual who didn't show up to work and had medical issues. Officers put out a broadcast message and a ping was started. The individual was okay and he was heading back home.

Saturday, Jan. 9

10:15 a.m. – Officers took a report of unemployment fraud.

Sunday, Jan. 10

1:49 p.m. – A Belchertown resident found cell phone on River Road in Deerfield.

Monday, Jan. 11

6:46 a.m. – Officers took a report of an elderly individual who was missing from their residence in Dana Woods. It was reported that the party suffers from Alzheimer's and a relative was out looking for them to no avail. Officers responded to the area to aid in the search. Officers were told the relative was last seen at 6:15 a.m. They checked the outside of the house. K-9 Dash of Amherst Police Dept. responded and assisted with search. Dash lost track. Dispatch was later informed that the person was at a residence in Dana Woods.

6 p.m. – Officers took a report of unemployment fraud.

6:49 p.m. – Officers responded to an accident on Pine St. One vehicle was travelling west on Pine St. when the operator said their eyes didn't adjust to dark roadway. The vehicle collided with a utility pole then travelled into the eastbound lane, colliding with a tree on the eastside of the road. There was heavy damage to the passenger's side front end. The operator was not injured and the vehicle was towed privately.

7:54 p.m. – Officers responded to a

See POLICE LOG, page 16 •

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POLICE LOG • from page 15

North Main St. busines for a wellbeing check. After speaking with the reporting party, the officers were told a relative took a taxi to the hospital. The reporting party wanted to make sure their relative was okay. The person was reportedly kicked out of the taxi in someone's front yard. The officer advised a "be on the look out" order would be put out, but the reporting party didn't think it would be necessary. There is no other information at this time.

Tuesday, Jan. 12

7:20 a.m. – An officer responded to a North Main St. apartment complex to assist with a neighbor dispute.

Granby Police

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 133 calls for the week of Jan. 8 through Jan. 14. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. All information is provided by the Granby Police Department.

Sunday, Jan. 10

6:30 p.m. – Officers investigated a motor vehicle accident on Chicopee St. The operator drove off the roadway and caused property damage. The operator was charged with operation under the influence.

8:11 p.m. – Officers responded to an incident of vandalism done to a motor vehicle on West State St. The incident still under investigation.

Thursday, Jan. 14

12:14 p.m. – Officers investigated a motor vehicle accident involving two vehicles on East State St.

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